

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the February 2, 2009 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2009 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Gil Yanuck
Vice Chairperson Stan Zuber
Wes Clyde
Doug Martin
John Valley

STAFF: Kathleen King, Recording Secretary*

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the board's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office, and are available for review during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0002) - Chairperson Yanuck called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 10, 2008 (1-008) - Member Clyde moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2008 meeting. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0016) - Chairperson Yanuck modified the agenda to address the items pertinent to the NDOW staff who were present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0059) - None.

5. DISCLOSURES (1-0062) - Member Clyde advised of having discussed the quota recommendations and season setting dates with several hunters. Chairperson Yanuck advised that he had received an e-mail regarding the same issue. He also advised of a discussion with Park Planner Vern Krahn regarding the item on the agenda with the creation of another landing to exit the Carson River. Mr. Krahn recommended that the chairs of this board, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Carson River Advisory Committee meet to discuss this matter.

6. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE NOVEMBER 21 AND 22, 2008 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-0105) - Chairperson Yanuck advised of having attended the meeting, wherein discussion took place regarding the decision to not list the sage grouse as endangered and that nothing will happen until mid-year. He advised that there was a lot of preliminary discussions, but the court didn't feel information was moving the way it should and wants to get it done properly. Commission General Regulation 336 came to the surface because when nonresidents' on guided hunts applications were rejected, they felt it was the fault of the guide and they should get a second chance. Commissioners voted to leave CGR 336 as a partnership between the nonresident applicants and the guides. If a guide doesn't fill out forms properly, then a nonresident hunter has an issue with the guide. There was also discussion regarding the lion hunting bill with a proposed idea to pay \$500 to anyone who brings the hide and head to NDOW. There was quite a bit of discussion and Senator Claborn expressed his concern about the way things were being done and about the lack of attendance by the public at the county advisory board meetings. Nevertheless, a lot of people think if the lions are

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removed, it will be the panacea for the deer hunting problems. Information was provided about the State's budget situation regarding what the various departments have to do and what NDOW is trying to do to reduce costs. There was also discussion about cutting down the number of trips to various places, sharing rides, and other alternative means of getting to meetings.

7. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendized for the February 6 and 7, 2009 Wildlife Commission meeting and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without extensive hearing. Any member of the Board or any citizen may request that an item be taken from the consent agenda and acted upon separately during this meeting (1-0210) - Chairperson Yanuck entertained requests to hear items separate from the consent agenda. Pursuant to previous discussion, he pulled items 7-A, 7-B, 7-F, 7-J, 7-K, and 7-M. Member Clyde moved to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

7-A. ACTION REGARDING PETITION OF IRA HANSEN. The commission will consider a petition from Mr. Ira Hansen requesting to clarify and define the term "disturb" as referenced in NRS 503.454.2. The commission may accept and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition (1-0234) - Chairperson Yanuck introduced the item. NDOW Game Warden McCusker described background information regarding Mr. Hansen's petition, the current definition of "disturb", and Mr. Hansen's proposed definition. After a lengthy discussion, the consensus of the Board was that Mr. Hansen's proposal is unenforceable as there is no way to identify whose trap was placed first and whether a trap was well concealed. A meeting or discussion with the head of the trappers' association was suggested to get the word out to those involved and the matter should be handled within that organization rather than try to modify the NRS with language that can't be enforced. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. Member Martin moved to oppose this particular regulation due to input received due to the enforceability or unenforceability as acclaimed by Department of Wildlife staff present. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

7-B. ACTION REGARDING APPEAL OF BRIAN M. McGURTY. The commission will consider an appeal from Mr. Brian M. McGurty on the denial of his permit to continue scientific collection. (1-0356) Chairperson Yanuck introduced the item and NDOW Chief of Wildlife Diversity Laura Richards gave background information regarding Mr. McGurty's appeal. In the past, Mr. McGurty had a scientific collection permit and a permit to breed gila monsters. She stated that it is NDOW's position that he violated his permit and they are denying him a renewal based on issues with previous permits. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. McGurty's association with Cal Poly and prior experience. Chairperson Yanuck inquired as to whether the Board would want to take a position based on the information provided in their agenda packet. (1-0432) Member Martin commented that he didn't believe the Board had anything on which to form an opinion and that due course should be followed between two parties. Chairperson Yanuck suggested that the position of the Board may be to wait until more facts are available and that no action be taken on this item. He then entertained a motion. (1-0451) Member Clyde moved to take no action due to hearings before the commission. Member Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

7-C. ACTION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICY ("APRP") COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER RAINES. Commissioner Raine will report to the full commission on the APRP Committee meeting held on January 7, 2009, and may ask that the commission take action on the committee's recommendation to revise

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Commission Policy No. 1, “General Guidelines for the Commission.” No discussion or action taken.

7-D. ACTION REGARDING WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (“WDMC”) - COMMISSIONER RAIN. Commissioner Raine will report to the full commission on the WDMC Committee meeting held on January 8, 2009, and may ask that the commission take action on the committee’s recommendations. No discussion or action taken.

7-E. ACTION REGARDING FINANCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER LURIE. The committee will request approval of the committee charter. The committee may also request the commission to take action regarding recommended legislative revisions to NRS 501.179, relative to commissioner compensation. No discussion or action taken.

7-F. ACTION REGARDING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN LENT. The committee may request action regarding the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s proposed legislation in Assembly Bill 77 to increase civil penalty amounts, provide for a civil penalty for conviction of wanton waste, and to make possession of wildlife illegally taken outside Nevada’s jurisdiction unlawful; the committee may also request action regarding the release of big game tag draw information within 48 hours of completion of the draw process; the committee may also request action regarding legislation pertinent to mountain lion hunting with Department staff, providing suggested language for consideration by Assemblyman Claborn on a lion bill (1-0457) - Regarding AB 77, NDOW Game Warden McCusker commented that they were present to address any questions the Board may have about this item, and that of the four options submitted, the NDOW preference is Option 1 as opposed to Options 2, 3, and 4. He advised that there have been numerous differences of opinion on what is considered “edible portions” so this would clarify it for the hunters, game wardens, and judges. In response to a question, Mr. McCusker advised that this was submitted to the Board as the original language for civil penalties on trophy type big game as \$5,000 - \$10,000. The Board wanted to reduce it to \$500. (1-0513) In response to another question, Mr. McCusker commented that the initial overview by the Commission is that they wanted to reduce the fee and establish a baseline for enforcement. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding utilizing all edible portion components and not just certain parts. Wanton waste was also discussed as well as educating the public as to why change is necessary. Mr. McCusker explained that all four Options have a reduced civil penalty which the Commission requested. Option 1 and Option 2 keep the civil penalty for wanton waste as is. Option 3 and Option 4 remove the wanton waste penalty. All four Options contain language for edible portions, but NDOW’s position is to keep it as a regulation and out of statute so if a revision is necessary, it could be easily changed. In response to a question, Mr. McCusker advised that there is no current civil penalty for wanton waste. In response to another question, Mr. McCusker replied that wanton waste issues are not commonly issued and that civil penalties are assessed according to a scale. Adding ‘allows it to go to waste in the field’ in the language leaves no question that a civil penalty can be assessed. He also advised of the difference in penalties for different types of animals, i.e., a game bird is \$25 to \$1000, whereas an elk is \$500 to \$10,000, as well as addressing increasing the civil penalties for trophy size, black bear, and mountain goat. Option 1, section 2(a) refers to big game mammals and edible portions, and 2(b) refers to poaching. Mr. McCusker advised that if a regulation is violated, NRS 501.385 can be cited referring to a specific NAC. Discussion ensued regarding regulations and statutes. (1-1016) Member Martin referring to Option 1 section 2(m), inquired as to whether a motion could be passed with a recommendation that subsection (m) be reviewed and revised. Discussion ensued regarding the difference between game birds. Chairperson Yanuck entertained

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a motion. (1-1127) Member Martin moved that the CCABMW recommend adoption of Option 1 with the Department looking at the regulatory section draft regulations, subsection (m), and trying to refine that case under game birds more to be reflected by current practices where a lot of people only take the breast out of game birds. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

7-G. ACTION REGARDING HERITAGE COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER CAVIN. The commission will hear a report on the heritage account's interest and principal from Administrative Services Officer Dave Prather. Commissioner Cavin will report to the full commission on the Heritage Committee meeting held on February 5, 2009, and may ask that the commission take action on the committee's recommendations. No discussion or action taken.

7-H. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-01, HERITAGE TAGS 2010 - BIG GAME STAFF BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. The commission will adopt the heritage tag species, seasons, and quotas for 2010. No discussion or action taken.

7-I. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-02, HERITAGE TAGS 2011 - BIG GAME STAFF BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. The commission will adopt the heritage tag species, seasons, and quotas for 2011. No discussion or action taken.

7-J. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-03, RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. The commission will establish 2009 and 2010 season dates, species, quotas, hours, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take for raptors for falconry. (1-0155) Ms. Richards introduced the item and gave some background information. The regulation is updated every two years and regulates and permits people who raise raptors to hunt during the season. It allows them to retrieve a young bird out of a nest, raise the bird, and train it for falconry. There has been no recommended changes from the last two years and only the language is being clarified. No change in the regulation has been made for over six years. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-1248) Member Martin moved to adopt the recommendation after hearing the explanation from the Department of Wildlife. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

7-K. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-04, NON-COMMERCIAL COLLECTION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS FOR 2009 AND 2010 - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. The regulation establishes the 2009 and 2010 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collection of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians. (1-1258) - Chairperson Yanuck introduced the item and Ms. Richards gave some background information. This regulation concerns hobby and non-commercial collections. There are a number of species that can be collected for hobby and educational purposes with a bag limit of two per year of certain species. There is no permit requirement. There are no recommended changes from the previous two years. Texas spiny soft shell turtles, previously in the unlimited category, are being moved to the two per year category because it is unknown whether they were naturalized or moved here, but NDOW does not want them collected and moved to other bodies of water. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-1322) Member Martin moved to adopt the recommendation after hearing the explanation from the Department of Wildlife. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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7-L. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-06 - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST KEVIN LANSFORD. The commission will adopt mountain lion harvest objectives for the 2009 / 2010 and 2010 / 2011 seasons. No discussion or action taken.

7-M. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-05, PROPOSED BIG GAME SEASON DATES - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. The commission will adopt the 2009 and 2010 hunting seasons for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal gender, age and physical characteristics, and legal weapon requirements; partnership in wildlife ("PIW") and emergency hunt structure and statewide quotas; the 2009 nonresident restricted deer tag quotas and seasons; dates and times for indoctrination courses. (1-1341) - Chairperson Yanuck introduced the item. He commented that time was spent two years ago discussing opening the season on a certain day vs. a certain date and trying the date specific for two years. With a date specific, the dates can be easily separated. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding two changes made, i.e., going from a Saturday opener to a specific date and going from 30 to 16 days. It was the consensus of the Board that most people preferred a mid-week opening date. Mr. Cox gave some background information on the Nevada Department of Wildlife's 2009 & 2010 Big Game Season Recommendations, copies of which were distributed to the Board and incorporated into the record. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **(1-2049) Member Valley moved to accept the Regulation as proposed. Vice chairperson Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

Longbow archery hunts 2161 and 2261: Mr. Cox advised that the only change is the Sheldon (033) as to the nonresident. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **(1-2077) Member Clyde moved to accept the Longbow. Member Valley seconded the Motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

Muzzleloader hunt for buck, horns longer than ears: Mr. Cox advised that several years ago, eligibility requirements were required to be established first, and last year the eligibility was changed to accommodate muzzleloader. The new eligibility requirements are for all prong horned horns longer than ears. It's a five year wait if successful regardless of weapon class, and no wait if unsuccessful. It accommodates a muzzleloader eligibility. It's a post-rut hunt, September 25 through October 4. The last season is horns shorter than ears, doe/antelope hunts or yearling buck. The seasons are expanded in mini groups. NDOW feels there are some herds that can handle some harvest and one particular herd. Six different unit doe hunts were added. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **(1-2205) Member Martin moved to adopt the regulation as recommended. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2210) Elk: Mr. Cox advised that an effort is still needed to remove Elk from the Rubies and East Humboldts and there is still an issue with the Atlanta farm fields in area 23 near highway 93. There is a cow and bull season to move some animals that are creating issues. Discussion ensued regarding the various issues. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **(1-2265) Member Martin moved to adopt the regulation as recommended. The motion was seconded by Member Valley. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2267) Resident antler or bull elk 4151 any legal weapon: Mr. Cox advised that Stagg Mountain and some surrounding drainages have a sizeable elk herd and there has been a lot of expansion of the elk. Some wildfires have modified some seasonal use of the elk. There is a stand alone 073 unit bull hunt. The 091 is shifted based on Utah's recommendation for their season. The NDOW is

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recommending to not have rut bull hunts in area 16. A lengthy discussion among board members regarding rut hunts ensued. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. (1-2460) Member Martin moved to adopt the regulation as recommended with the exception of adding a rut hunt back in area 16. Motion died for lack of a second. **Member Valley moved to accept the regulation as proposed. Vice chairperson Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1.**

(1-2480) Nonresident hunts: Mr. Cox advised of the addition of a couple of unit groups. Based on where the elk herd is, there are enough tags in the resident hunt to provide at least one tag to the nonresidents. For the 4251 hunt, they are the Tuscarora and Independence Range unit group and the Cherry Creek Range unit group for nonresident rifle bull. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. (1-2501) **Member Valley moved to accept and approve the regulation as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2505) Resident muzzleloader 4156: Mr. Cox advised of the addition of unit group 073, along with its rifle hunts. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-2515) **Member Clyde moved to accept as presented. Vice chairperson Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2519) Nonresident muzzleloader: Mr. Cox advised that there is limited interest in some units. The Jarbidge hunt was moved in because the tag quota was adequate to at least get one tag. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-2537) **Member Clyde moved to accept as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2540) Longbow archery 4161 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that the only change is adding 073, and that the season dates are the same as last year. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-2547) **Vice chairperson Zuber moved to accept as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2551) Nonresident bull antlered longbow archery 4261 hunt: Mr. Cox advised of the addition of 072 and 074 as there is a large enough resident archery to meet the ten percent rule. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-2558) **Member Valley moved to accept as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2563) Antlerless any legal weapon 4181 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that based on population objectives, there is a need to start slowing down the elk herd in western Elko county, so the 062 unit group is being separated out because of changes in the elk distribution and 072, 073, 074, 075 are being separated to try to put pressure on the elk in October. NDOW will be marking elk to try to learn where they are. Hunters will be allowed in at late season to go from the 072 to 075 areas. Because of shifts due to the wildfires in Goose Creek, 081 was separated from 076, 077, and 079. The season has been extended. Last year the season ended on October 15th and NDOW is asking to add four more days. Considerable discussion ensued. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. (1-2785) **Member Clyde moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Member Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-2789) Muzzleloader antlerless elk 4176 hunt: Mr. Cox advised of the addition of several unit groups and that the season dates are the same. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-2805) **Member Martin moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

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(1-2809) Antlerless longbow archery 4111 hunt: Mr. Cox advised of the addition of unit groups. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-2816) **Member Clyde moved to accept the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Cox advised they did not recommend a nonresident cow season. The fee changed which was problematic and why there were so many left over cow tags three years ago. The tag fee is now reasonable and there are many residents who want to hunt. There isn't a seamless draw and if nonresident tags are left over, residents get a chance in the second draw. There was a lot of hate mail three years ago when hunters put in for cow hunts as residents. They were told that they were unsuccessful in the draw. They could look at the left over tags, and if a tag was left over in the same unit in which they were denied and told unsuccessful, it was because of the nonresidence. There are very few cow hunt opportunities in California so the tags would sell, but because of the huge demand for residents that's what is done with left over tags. There are population objectives that are having to be maintained and it's a gentleman's agreement with the watchdog industry. More money could be made by selling tags to California residents to control the cow herds. Chairperson Yanuck commented that there is always an attempt to give more Nevada hunters the opportunity to be in the field and they should have it before anyone else. If NDOW is not getting cow tag applicants from Nevada, then it should be opened to the nonresidents which can still accomplish the objective of herd control.

(1-2964) Desert bighorn: Mr. Cox advised that NDOW is proud of what the agency and sportsmen have accomplished, over 6,000 desert bighorn which is more desert bighorn than anywhere in the world. However, NDOW has struggled to manage these herds. Sheep have been sprinkled around through their capture and transplant program but there has always been a struggle because of a very small window in relation to when the rut is, when the ewes are pregnant, and when NDOW is not going to be out there with hunters. NDOW is recommending statewide November 20th to December 20th which would give them a bigger window to complete their work, cooler temperatures and the opportunity to get in and out before the hunt starts. He said they have always struggled in the south to thin the big herds and the temperature can sometimes be pushing 90 degrees. It's always been a struggle to not put a lot of undue stress on those animals so they are asking for it to start 10 days later. There have been issues brought up by the Department of Defense. Some hunters have been irresponsible on Department of Defense lands, primarily the bottom range which is the Nevada Test and Training Range. They made it clear that more language needed to be added to accommodate them. There is a minimum age of 14 to access their land and hunt sheep. NDOW doesn't have that restriction. They also wanted to make clear that anyone with a felony conviction won't be allowed. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. (1-3173) **Member Clyde moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Member Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3179) Nonresident: Mr. Cox advised that the nonresident are the same units as last year but that the date was shifted to ten days later. Other than deer, pronghorn elk and sheep, they fall into a situation where they don't have a mirror unit group for residents and nonresidents. When they review how many tags they want to offer for desert bighorn, they'll offer 90 percent to residents and 10 percent to nonresidents. The idea is to provide enough units to give nonresidents a tag, so they look at a statewide commitment to the 10 percent rule vs. a 10 percent rule by unit group that is done for deer. They are looking at elk statewide. If they offer another tag to nonresidents, the unit group comparison of a muzzleloader, resident bull quota to the nonresident muzzleloader bull quota, nonresidents are getting 15-20 percent. Statewide, it's 90-10. They've always looked at statewide.

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Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-3250) **Member Martin moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3253) California big horn: Mr. Cox advised that there are no changes. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Valley moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3262) 8251 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that there are no changes. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Martin moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3268) Rocky mountain big horn, 9151 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that there were no changes. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Valley moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3275) 9251 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that there were no changes. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Martin moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3303) Mountain goat 7151: Mr. Cox advised that there were no changes. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Martin moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3312) Nonresident goat: Mr. Cox advised there were no changes for units 101 and 102. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Clyde moved to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3320) Junior deer: Mr. Cox advised that they tried to accommodate more of the three day Nevada Day weekend for those unit groups that had a split season. They looked at the date of kill and the number of kills by the juniors last year and there were a good number of juniors that harvested during that weekend. There were a few complaints of late season tags with small quotas, and sizeable junior tag holders in the bigger deer herds hunting during the late season so there was some frustration that there were a lot of juniors in the trophy type limited quality hunt. NDOW is trying to maximize the weekends for the juniors as they don't have as many options during the week. Nevada Day is about the latest it can be that they didn't get to hunt when the late season hunters were out. There is a potential for conflict which is limiting the juniors' opportunity to hunt. If NDOW has a mirrored junior hunt with the early late, they are going to try and add an extra weekend at the beginning. Instead of starting October 5, the juniors would start October 1 which would assure them another weekend to accommodate their difficult schedule. There were two different junior hunt seasons; some ended on the 31st and some ended on November 2. (1-3618) **Member Martin moved to adopt as presented.** Mr. Cox advised of several typographical errors: 7, 10, and 114, 115. Corrections should have been that in 7 and 10, muzzleloader season is the first one. For the late season, there's a late archery hunt for the juniors. If an early area 7 junior tag is drawn, they can hunt all the early seasons and if a late season tag is drawn, with the exception of rifles, they can hunt those. Muzzleloaders in the September hunt; any legal weapon hunt is the end of October through November 5; and archery is November 10-30. For 114, 115, it's still August 1-September 5. Muzzleloader is November 10-30, and late season deer is the end of October through

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November 5. (1-3689) **Member Martin amended his motion to accept the recommendations as corrected by NDOW staff. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3703) Antlerless or doe deer 1181: Mr. Cox advised that there are a few token hunts. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Clyde moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3720) 1101 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that there remains a need to focus some doe harvests on the Baker Ranch which skirts 114 and 115. The date has been shifted to accommodate those needs. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Clyde moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(1-3736) Restricted nonresident mule deer antlered buck, any legal weapon, 1235 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that, in some of the unit groups, nonresidents weren't getting many tags. Pursuant to statute, nonresident guided hunt tags are 37.5 percent of last year's total nonresident rifle tags. NDOW decided two years ago why have a split season for two or three tags, but in this case, there were a few more. Instead of giving the full season length for these guided tags, NDOW will mirror it with what the nonresident normal tag is. Last year, there was only a single season for 011 thru 013 from October 5-November 5. They will now conform to the other nonresidents who are hunting on their own. There's an early and late, the only exception is 192. The quota is so small that the formula only generates one tag when there is an early and late season for rifle in 192. There's only one tag in early and one tag in late for 194-196. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (1-3859) **Member Martin moved to adopt the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.** Mr. Cox advised that the season dates were incorrect for the late 194-196 and should be December 21-January 1.

(2-0333) 1331 hunt: Carl Lackey indicated that most of what he has heard has been good with only one complaint from a guide about the split seasons. The guide was afraid that in the 194-196 area the split seasons were going to result in killing all the bucks. Mr. Lackey informed him to voice his opinions to the Wildlife Advisory Board. He said that 192 was about average, mostly in the Indian Hills area. 194-196 were scattered all over the place with a pretty good buck ratio. A lengthy discussion ensued as to the herd's movement patterns and whether it was a resident or migratory herd. Mr. Lackey advised that last year, there were 140 rifle tags so there is an opportunity for a split season. Regarding the 081 hunt, the eastern region people would like to see an interstate hunt opportunity. They get movement into the Goose Creek area from Idaho and Utah so they are trying to pattern their season similar to some of the Mineral, Lyon, Douglas and Washoe County interstate herds, and are looking to move their seasons later to try to accommodate more interstate movement. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. (2-0462) **Member Valley moved to accept the recommendations as presented. Vice chairperson Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.** Member Martin suggested researching 08 area A, due to the potential of deer being on private land. Mr. Lackey advised that they went with the recommendation from the eastern region and they've dealt with the ranchers there.

(2-0480) Muzzleloader 1371 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that resident, nonresident look at 081 so it's a late November through December 10 hunt. The 114-115 hunters are still waiting for deer to come out of the Great Basin National Park although there are some elk hunts in that area so it was moved to five days later to try to accommodate the weather pushing the deer out on the bureau of lands. Last year, the muzzleloader hunt late in 114-115 was November 6-25 and included Thanksgiving.

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NDOW wanted to shift it but got into a conflict with the elk hunters. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (2-504) **Member Martin moved to adopt the recommendation as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(2-0507) 1341 hunt: Mr. Cox advised that for 081 there will be a late archery hunt which will be November 1-20 to accommodate the other weapon classes. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Clyde moved to adopt the recommendation as presented. Vice chairperson Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(2-0518) PIW hunts: Mr. Cox advised that NDOW is setting the season and tag orders for the 2009-2010 seasons. The same DOD footnote language in the 3151 desert hunt has been added to these hunts. PIW hunters are given the option to hunt on the NTTR land, but they must comply with all guidelines and requirements as other hunters and must hunt the same season dates. For the early seasons that have been recommended for October 15-November 5, NDOW is asking that they be excluded from the PIW hunters. They can hunt the late season, but there are only three unit groups open in the early season in October. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Yanuck then entertained a motion. (2-0576) **Vice chairperson Zuber moved to accept the recommendations as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(2-0580) Emergency hunts: Mr. Cox advised that the tag quota was changed to “not to exceed 2,000 tags statewide for the species listed.” Three years ago in area 6, some animals needed to be harvested. There was a first come, first served application process. NDOW identified “emergency hunts and seasons where the Department designates a quota of 100 tags or more for a season, the Department will hold a computerized drawing”. NDOW is asking for more flexibility in case there is an issue of deer getting stacked up because of an early winter. Season dates are July 1-February 28. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (2-0617) **Member Martin moved to accept the recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion carried 5-0.**

(2-0620) Bighorn sheep indoctrination dates for 2009 and 2010: Mr. Cox advised that some dates were incorrect. The 2009 Elko course should have been Monday, August 31st. The 2010 Las Vegas course should have been August 21st. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. **Member Clyde moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

(2-0643) Big game application, deadline and remaining tag regulations: Mr. Cox advised that the agency will have an early release of tag results, 48 hours after the draw occurs. It will be preliminary as there are always issues with credit cards or not having the ability to cover the costs, but it's a list of those who drew a tag or were successful in the drawing. Discussion ensued. (2-0680) Chairperson Yanuck called for a motion. **A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the recommendations as presented.**

(2-0685) 2010-2011 Wildlife heritage tag quota and seasons: Mr. Cox advised that they reviewed past season dates to see if they could be extended to make them more attractive to potential tag holders who would buy them at auction. All of the recommended seasons were changed to start July 20th and run for a year which are for all species except wild turkey. If this is approved, heritage seasons are part of the aerial scouting regulation. Any season that the commission sets, except for mountain lion, if there is an open season, you can't aerially scout for any big game species. If this is passed, aerial scouting will cease to exist. If there is a season going on anywhere in the state,

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scouting cannot be done regardless of the species. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (2-0779) **A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the recommendation as presented.**

(2-0798) Mountain lion harvest objectives: Mr. Lackey advised that it is being defined as the limit NDOW does not want to exceed. The 2002-2003 commission established harvest objectives above and beyond anything done in the past. Harvest objectives were based on three year averages for the region and that meant it was down by unit and not just regional unit group objectives. Different factors were also reviewed, such as the lion population trend, status of the population, public conflict issues, depredation issues and bio-political factors. In 2002-2003 that was taken away. Quotas in western region 114 were established; higher than anything that could be biologically supported and it's been that way ever since. Harvest objectives were reassessed with a three year average of 114. The western region sport harvest 10 year average is 44 in 114. The harvest objective has never been reached. The opportunity has steadily increased to hunt lion with a year round season and two tags. Tags are cheaper and can be purchased over the counter. The year long season did not result in an increased number of lions. The average number of people statewide taking two lions is seven for the entire state. So far this year it's been one. A lot has to do with the number of lions. The commission's goal in 2002 was to decrease the lion population in the state, which has been done. The trend in the number of lions harvested in the western region is going down slightly. The lion population has declined which is all based on harvest.

Changing mountain lion management and policy should be based on science. Every time management goals are adjusted without biology to back it up, is forcing the issue. Lion hunting may be lost altogether within the next few years and there isn't the biology to back it up. Chairperson Yanuck commented that, from a hunter's perspective, the reason the deer population is down is because of the rampant mountain lion issue. The trend data shows that the overall harvesting is down which doesn't seem to support the guides' complaints of having a more difficult time finding lions for their clients. The proposed financial incentive of \$500 a piece may peak people's interests but if they get out in the field and aren't successful, then they're going to be disappointed and the guides will suffer. Mr. Lackey commented that this is sport harvest. Predator management needs to be separated from sport harvest which is what NDOW is attempting to do. Chairperson Yanuck commented that there is a group of people using inter-justification as to why there is such a spoiled deer hunt. Forget the biology, the scientific data, and all the variables for arriving at a just reasoning as to why the herd is the way it is. Suggesting something logical while dealing with an illogical society is an uphill battle. Mr. Lackey advised that recommendations and decisions have to be based on the best biological information available at the time. Numbers are being thrown around that there are 3,000 lions in Nevada and every one kills 52 deer a year, therefore, they're killing 150,000 deer a year which is why there isn't any deer. The dynamics of lion populations are such that we may start seeing a drop in the average age from 3.9 to 2.9. If after five or six years, and the research shows something about the demographics that causes concern, then we can comfortably make a decision. A big tom will kill or chase out other lions in his territory to protect it. If a big tom is taken out, suddenly that territory opens up to several smaller lions. By taking out one big tom, the lion population increases in that area. Some of the increase in harvest is probably due to that very thing.

The last few years, there has been an increased number of transient lions moving into Nevada. Discussion ensued regarding hunters hunting the same range every year. (2-1102) Member Martin applauded and offered his support to the Department for separating sport hunting from predator

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control which has nothing to do with the number of cats being killed by government trappers. Discussion ensued regarding sport harvest vs. predator control harvest. Member Martin commented that this is not the harvest to deal with predator control but for those that find this a sport and this helps separate the two. Chairperson Yanuck commented that separating the hunter who is hunting lions for sport vs. the ones that are hunting for pay because there's been a bounty on their head. He listened to enough of the commissioners' discussions which opposes the biologists' recommendations because one is a natural process created by the number of lions and their need to feed and the available deer in the area, and the other is a fixation on the panacea to a deer herd problem. What we're looking at now is the recommendation from the department regarding sport hunting which is all we need to focus on. Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. (2-1205) **Member Martin moved to adopt the recommendations as presented. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Lackey then commented that when the \$500 bounty hunt comes up, it would be paid for by the sale of pelts. He collects the pelts, takes them to the fur sale, and sells them. It costs \$100 per pelt to flush them, skin off the paws, skin off the head, salt it, and prepare it. He usually receives an average of \$100-\$150 at the first sale per lion pelt which is barely breaking even and ends up with \$20 a head per pelt. Last year's average was a high \$221. There were a lot of taxidermists wanting lion hides. Discussion ensued regarding ranchers who kill lions for the \$500 bounty and they just end up in grave sites. It was noted that the anti-hunting community will be "on us like stink" every time there's a value placed on harvesting an animal. Chairperson Yanuck thanked Mr. Cox and Mr. Lackey for their attendance and participation.

8. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE FEBRUARY 6 AND 7, 2009 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING. A report on each of the following informational items will be provided by a Nevada Department of Wildlife representative or a Wildlife Commissioner at the upcoming Commission meeting (2-1306) - Chairperson Yanuck commented that the idea is for each committee to report at each commission meeting and bring forth action. They are all informational and not action related.

8-A. CORRESPONDENCE - CHAIRMAN LENT. The commission will review and may discuss written items sent or received by the commission since the last regular meeting and provide copies for the exhibit file. No discussion.

8-B. COMMISSION POLICY NO. 50, DUCK STAMP PROCEDURES, FIRST READING - CHIEF OF CONSERVATION EDUCATION KELLY CLARK. The department is requesting the commission to revise Policy No. 50 to change the number of Nevada duck stamps printed from 50,000 to 35,000. (2-1340) - Chairperson Yanuck noted that the duck stamp is a fresh reading for a change in the policy and that the number of duck stamps printed will be reduced because there were too many left over.

8-C. 2008 PRELIMINARY BIG GAME HARVEST RESULTS - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. Summary and overview of preliminary big game harvest data. No discussion.

8-D. WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES ("WAFWA") ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT - CHAIRMAN LENT, COMMISSIONER McNINCH, AND SECRETARY MAYER. No discussion.

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8-E. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL BRYAN STOCKTON. No discussion.

8-F. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES / LEADERSHIP TEAM NOTES - SECRETARY KEN MAYER. No discussion.

8-G. DEPARTMENT BUDGET - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER III DAVE PRATHER. No discussion.

8-H. WILDLIFE DIVERSITY DIVISION PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. No discussion.

8-I. DEPARTMENT ACTIONS RELATED TO “EARLY AND UNAUTHORIZED RELEASE OF 2008 BIG GAME DRAW RESULTS” (2-1353) - Chairperson Yanuck noted that this is the item that Mr. Cox discussed and expressed his understanding that the matter had been resolved. The commissioner issued a final report about what it was and what steps were put in place to prevent it from happening.

8-J. 2009 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - DIRECTOR KEN MAYER. No discussion.

8-K. UPDATE ON WILD HORSE ISSUES AND LEGISLATION - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM. No discussion.

8-L. UPDATE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE INVOLVEMENT - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM (2-1362) - Chairperson Yanuck advised that an e-mail was circulated regarding recommendations on wind energy. He noted that it's before the Board of Supervisors in Carson City. He indicated that because of the way the NRS is written, it would supersede any CCR issues and that a special use permit is not required. He stated that a representative from NV Energy testified at the Board of Supervisors that in order to be effective, they have to be above 90 feet because of the efficiency of the wind to drive turbine blades.

8-M. NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE WATER MONITORING RELATIVE TO SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY PROJECTS - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM (2-1417) - Chairperson Yanuck advised that at the last meeting, Mr. Pulliam discussed the issue about the water being too hot for trout and they can't afford to cool it without using another source of water, so they were looking at raising bass instead of trout. (2-1426) Member Martin commented that Mr. Pulliam will discuss the southern Nevada water authority taking water from other counties and they are monitoring the draw down which is ultimately part of how much southern Nevada is going to take from Lincoln and White Pine counties.

8-N. BASSET AND COMINS LAKE FISHERIES’ STATUS - DEPUTY DIRECTOR RICH HASKINS. No discussion.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NWBC ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICY COMMITTEE - None.

10. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM - GIL YANUCK - None.

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11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET (2-1442) - Chairperson Yanuck advised of no budget problems.

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (2-1437) - Chairperson Yanuck commented that another meeting will be coming up this month. The report about the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is going to be addressed and what the courts will approve. He will be attending the next meeting.

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING. The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission is scheduled for March 27 and 28, 2009, in Reno. The next meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2009 (2-1461) - Chairperson Yanuck noted the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2009.

14. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF - None.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (2-1468) - None.

16. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (2-1474) - Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion for adjournment. Member Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the February 2, 2009 Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Meeting are so approved this 23rd day of March, 2009.

GIL YANUCK, Chair

*Minutes transcribed by Jano Barnhurst March 17, 2009